

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 138494

15

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 ACDA-19 AF-10 DODE-00 PM-07

NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 /101 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:EWGNEHM:AM

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APPROVED BY NEA:RPDAVIES

NEA/INS:LBLAINGEN

ACDA (INFO)

IO/UNP:MR STULL

PM/DCA:MR TIMBERMAN (INFO)

DOD/ISA:COL. HALE (INFO)

AF/RA:MR NAVEZ (INFO)

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R 140105Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, PBOR, PFOR, CE

SUBJ: INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE

1. JULY 11 CHARGE SUSANTHA DE ALWIS, CALLED ON
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGER P. DAVIES TO DISCUSS
SRI LANKA'S INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE PROPOSAL. DE ALWIS
SAID PROPOSAL WOULD AGAIN BE COMING BEFORE UN THIS YEAR
AND HE WISHED TO GET CURRENT US REACTIONS TO PROPOSAL.
SPECIFICALLY, HE SAID HE HOPED TO LEARN WHAT OUR OBJECTIONS
WERE AND, RECALLING US ABSTENTION IN PAST, WHAT ACCOMMODA-
TIONS MIGHT BE MADE TO MAKE PROPOSAL MORE ACCEPTABLE TO
US.

2. MR. DAVIES SAID OUR PROBLEM WAS WITH CONCEPT. US

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PAGE 02 STATE 138494

PHILOSOPHY IS THAT INTERNATIONAL SEA SHOULD BE GOVERNED

BY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AND NOT BY SPECIFIC REGIME FOR ONE PARTICULAR PART OF SEA. HE INDICATED THIS HAD BEEN OUR DIFFICULTY IN 1971, IN 1972, AND WITH MEMBERSHIP ON AD HOC COMMITTEE. IN DISCUSSING OUR CONCERNS FURTHER, MR. DAVIES DREW ON STATE 213825 DATED 24 NOVEMBER 1972.

3. MR. DE ALWIS ASKED IF THERE WERE NOT SOME WAYS PROPOSAL MIGHT BE ALTERED TO MEET OUR OBJECTIONS. HE MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY THE QUESTION OF BASES IN AREA SUGGESTING THAT PROPOSAL EXEMPT BASES PURPOSE OF WHICH WAS DEFENSE OR SURVEILLANCE, IE., NOT FOR OFFENSIVE PURPOSES. IN FURTHER EXAMPLE, HE SUGGESTED QUESTION OF PASSAGE MIGHT BE DRAFTED IN WAY TO ALLOW PASSAGE OF MILITARY VESSELS UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS. DE ALWIS NOTED EXACT WORKING COULD BE FLEXIBLE; IT WAS PRINCIPLE HIS GOVERNMENT HOPED TO GET ACCEPTED. DE ALWIS FURTHER NOTED THAT OBJECTION GIVEN BY MR. DAVIES SEEMED TO PRECLUDE ANY FLEXIBILITY IN WORDING. DE ALWIS ASKED IF HE WAS CORRECT IN CONCLUDING THAT IN VIEW OF OUR OBJECTION TO PRINCIPLE, US POSITION WOULD REMAIN SAME AS LAST YEAR. MR. DAVIES INDICATED THAT WAS CORRECT. RUSH

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